

R.I.P. ERIC JACKSON P.6



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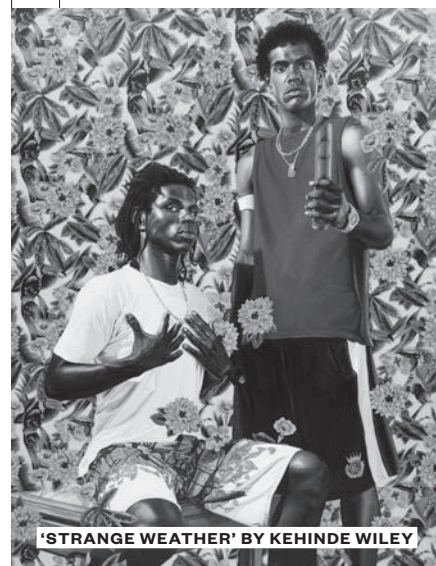
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letters

HIGH STREET TRAFFIC LIGHT CONCERN

Anyone else noticed the lack of signage at the 18th and High Street traffic light? It's the beginning/ending of the new two-way bike lanes on High after turning off 19th at South Eugene High School.

I commute several times a week through this light. I've lost count how many times I've had a close call, or seen others have one. Cars can go left only in the left lane, or straight or right in the right. Cars will go straight in the right lane, but cars in the left lane will also go straight. There's room for only one car on High after 18th.

I was thinking there would be traffic signs near the lights shortly after this change, but it's been a few weeks. I'm concerned when this will change for the safety of our community.

Thanks for your time, and enjoy the sun!

Mo Giewont
Eugene

MAGA BOGGLES

State senators in Oregon are legally disqualified from re-election if they subvert the minimum attendance requirements for carrying out legislative business. ("Most Republican Senators

Barred from Re-election in Oregon After Walkouts," New York Times, Feb. 1).

On the other hand, a MAGA candidate can obstruct a sacred national election and still be considered legally qualified to get on the ballot again? Boggles the rational mind, doesn't it?

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah

WANT SAVAGE LOVE

I am, with the rest of our town, thrilled to anticipate the print edition. I'm very happy for all the crossword and astrology lovers, too. I can't help noticing, though, that you're not mentioning the return of Dan Savage. What's the story?

Jain Elliott
Eugene

Editor's Note: Our goal is to fit in the columns, stories and puzzles our readers love, and prioritize the local. Eugene Weekly's ability to run Savage Love is based on space and pages, which are determined by ads and support. You can tell your favorite local business you'd love to see their ads next to Savage Love, or if you or your friends contribute to the paper, note it's for running Dan Savage!

Jonesin' Crossword BY MATT JONES

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"How to Succeed"
-you know what they say.

Across

- 1. Card pack
- 5. Jazz legend Davis
- 10. Galaxy addition?
- 13. Supporter
- 14. Kind of army or band
- 16. 2014 U.S. Women's Open champ Michelle
- 17. "Showroom sale item
- 19. Tax preparer's charge
- 20. There's no accounting for it
- 21. "You'll do great!"
- 23. Indefinitely long period
- 24. Actress Taylor-Joy of "The Super Mario Bros. Movie"
- 25. Bar offerings
- 26. "Yes, ___" (improv principle)
- 28. Small child
- 30. Lay down the lawn
- 32. "Help wanted" listings

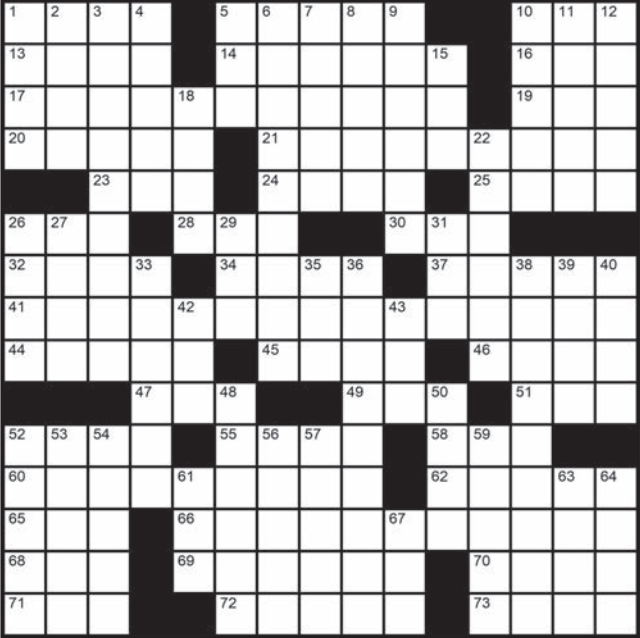
- 34. Capricious urge
- 37. Overinflate
- 41. "All we need," per a 1988 Guns N' Roses ballad
- 44. "8 Seconds" venue
- 45. Make agitated
- 46. One of four on the New Zealand flag
- 47. Geese formation shape
- 49. ___ Soundsystem ("I Can Change" band)
- 51. He/___ pronouns
- 52. Not fully
- 55. Certain internet junk
- 58. Monopoly board abbr.
- 60. "Screen protector of sorts?"
- 62. Amounts typically shown in red
- 65. Got away fast
- 66. Conclusion leading to perseverance, or a hint to the last words of the starred

- answers?
- 68. Enmity
- 69. Tribute
- 70. Lower range
- 71. Like much of PinkNews's demographic
- 72. See 33-Down
- 73. Decelerate

Down

- 1. Nuts
- 2. Swingin' Fitzgerald
- 3. Secretive kind of auction without knowing the price
- 4. City near Osaka
- 5. Rapper/actor ___ Def, a.k.a. Yasiin Bey
- 6. Worked up
- 7. "30 Rock" character Liz
- 8. Bad thing to see on your gas gauge
- 9. Mexican restaurant

- condiments
- 10. Horrible
- 11. Jigsaw unit
- 12. Looks up the answer, maybe
- 15. Org. for teachers or artists
- 18. "It's living ___-free in my head"
- 22. Crockpot scoopers, maybe
- 26. Partway open
- 27. ___ contendere (no contest plea)
- 29. Nighttime hunter
- 31. Kimono sash
- 33. With 72-Across, portrayer of Brian Hackett on "Wings"
- 35. Corp. debut
- 36. Word processing function for automating letters
- 38. Attentive
- 39. "Superfood" berry
- 40. Political period
- 42. Shoe end
- 43. "Waterfalls" group
- 48. Conditional deposit
- 50. Marcel Duchamp's movement
- 52. Parsley bit
- 53. Scarlett of "Gone With the Wind"
- 54. It doesn't grow on trees
- 56. "Fork it over!"
- 57. Take ___ at (guess)
- 59. The Venetian's site
- 61. Numerical suffix
- 63. One of the Jackson 5
- 64. Winter weather prediction
- 67. "Get ___ Ya-Ya's Out!" (Rolling Stones album)



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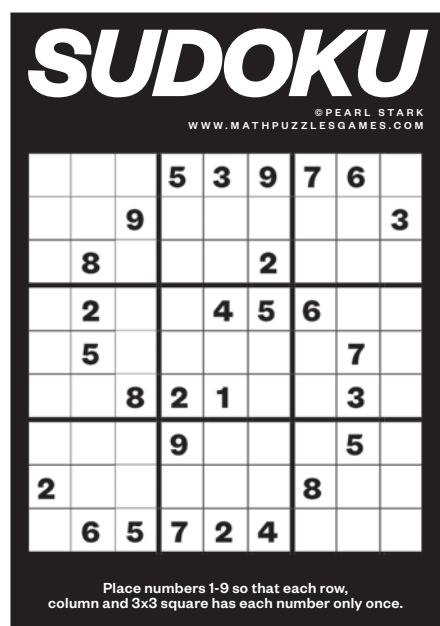
We need shelters and treatment facilities for our growing homeless population here in Eugene. Historically, Eugene residents vote in favor of ballot measures for local option levies.

A property tax increase of \$1.56 per \$1,000 of assessed property value would raise \$32 million over five years.

A typical Eugene property owner would see a yearly increase in taxes of \$400 per year over the five-year period of the levy.

I think Eugene is an empathetic community. We need to start putting our money where our mouth is.

Brett Moser
Eugene



BLACK GIRL FROM EUGENE BY AYISHA ELLIOTT

I am Anti-Racist

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POWER IN THE SYSTEMS

As an oppressed person, it's hard to write this. I think of how my oppression is so socialized and normalized by everyone and everything within our society. Even within our own community we practice the tools our oppressor used against us to justify who is better or best.

Nowadays, the KKK isn't as easy to name as other terrorist cells around the world. When *they* decided to maintain systems that were designed to exclude Black and Brown people, and especially Black and Brown women, by proxy of patriarchal practices and those deep beliefs hammered in by modern religion. When they said, "Take off the robes, and hide in plain sight," they upped the game. They didn't hide in hospitals to try to "make plans of attack" on Black people alone. They maintained their practices and process of oppression through indoctrinated ignorance and holding tightly to power.

What is the best way to maintain power of an entire system? Well, maintain access to every necessity needed to live a daily existence. Be their (the oppressed) teachers, their bankers, their physicians, their "friendly" neighborhood police officers, their newscasters, their grocer.

Give them no other choice but to assimilate to two options in order to eat, to be sheltered, to maintain education and personal growth.

You have this, or that. There is no in between, and within that choice, you will only succeed so far, and if you do succeed you still will be considered lesser than because of "what you represent."

Now, when we pinpoint the oppression it is easily gaslit because how could "everything be racist?"; although our collec-

tive experience is evident. History tells us the narrative is held by the powerful, and their narrative given to us is that our value is inherently less because of "what we represent."

What we represent is also a narrative that was given to us to help justify their oppressive practices and their unhinged hatred. The narrative all along has been one sided and incomplete. Just like the fight for freedom and equity for Black and Brown people — the reason for the oppression and the need for freedom is only heard from those who hold systemic power, to maintain that power. So you know it is a lie.

From a Black perspective, collectively, since the end of the institution called slavery technically ended, should we avenge our ancestors, and somehow fight back in ways that would oblivate the oppressive community's complete existence? Alas, we cannot, and we — collectively — have not. We never gained the power to do so, we are still actively and consistently held "in our place."

I don't agree with violence as an answer to violence, but I get it. To be an anti racist, past pain has to be the reason you do not behave or condone the same behavior that caused that same pain to continue.

I am a cycle breaker. It is not convenient, it is a lived commitment in all that I do. As a human who lives a life of an oppressed person, the most balanced approach to life for my spirit is to be anti oppression and to insist on the freedom of every person on this globe.

I am anti racist.

Ayisha Elliott is a race, diversity, equity and inclusion executive advisor, content producer of The Podcast Black Girl From Eugene, writer and motivational speaker originally from Eugene. Find more, including the podcast, at BlackGirlFromEugene.org.

VIEWPOINT BY BOB WARREN

The Clown Car

THE OLCC IS IN WAY OVER ITS HEAD WITH LEGAL CANNABIS

I wonder, in the history of Oregon state government, has there ever been a bigger mismatch than the Oregon Liquor Control Commission overseeing the newly legalized cannabis industry? Has there ever been another state agency less prepared to carry out its role?

There was a lot of news last year about one Oregon cannabis company, La Mota, and its owners, Rosa Cazares and Aaron Mitchell. They donated money to Democrats in Oregon, including Gov. Tina Kotek and then Labor Commissioner (now Congresswoman) Val Hoyle. They hired Secretary of State Shemia Fagan as a consultant for \$10,000 per month. Fagan lost her job, and her political career, as a result.

While they were courting political favors in Salem with cash, La Mota had over \$7 million in state and federal tax liens, lawsuits by employees for unpaid wages and from vendors for unpaid bills. Apparently, their licenses to sell pot in Oregon were never in jeopardy regardless of the failure to pay taxes or employees. OLCC either didn't know, or just didn't care, or was powerless to do anything. I seem to recall one of the arguments for legalizing pot was that it would generate tax revenue and jobs. But that only happens if the pot industry actually pays taxes and wages.

In 2018, an OLCC inspector stumbled onto 50 pounds of unlabeled, untracked La Mota cannabis in a warehouse in White City, 40 miles from the California border. Even OLCC could deduce the pot was destined to be "diverted and shipped to an illicit market" by La Mota. La Mota got a ticket from OLCC and fought it for two years. They eventually paid a \$16,000 fine. La Mota's licenses to sell pot were never in jeopardy, and its taxes still went largely unpaid.

It's obvious that the OLCC is not capable of managing the cannabis industry. It's a multi-billion dollar industry, mostly cash. It's totally out of OLCC's league. What a huge mistake it was to put pot under the guidance of the whiskey-drinking good 'ol boys at the OLCC. They should go back to doing what they do best — diverting expensive whiskey to friends and colleagues of the director — and get out of the pot business altogether.

In the early 1980s, Oregon actor Dick Curtis starred in a wonderful Blitz-Weinhard beer commercial as an Oregon state trooper intercepting beer from California. The commercial featured a Schludwiller Beer truck and the tagline "Where you boys going with all that beer?" The hapless drivers would respond "There is too much beer in California, so we are taking it to Oregon." The final shot is of the truck heading back to California.

I offer the following with apologies to Mr. Curtis, who passed away in 2023:

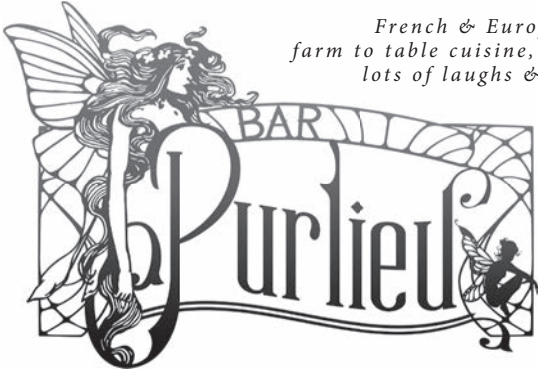
The big 18-wheeler, loaded with pot, is rolling down the Oregon highway towards the California border. With little to fear from the OLCC, the truck is decorated with brightly painted cannabis leaves. Why hide it when no one seems to care? From the rear, a siren, then multi-colored flashing lights and rotating gumball lights. An "AH-OH GAH" horn blares. One of the drivers asks the other, "What's up?" The other replies "It's just the clowns from OLCC, no need to worry."

As they park, a clown car pulls up, right out of the circus, with OLCC emblazoned on the hood. A dozen clowns pour out of the little car. Empty bottles of Pappy Van Winkle bourbon fall out on the ground. The clowns do handstands, back flips, somersaults, card tricks and sight gags as they approach the truck. "Where you boys going with all that pot?" They sing out, laughing and honking horns.


The driver, smiling, says "We're going to California. Thanks to the lack of oversight by the OLCC, there's too much pot in Oregon, so we're going to sell it down there." The clowns gather in a huddle. After a long minute or two they look up at the driver and with big smiley faces they all sing out "It's OK, not a problem, have a nice day."

The final shot is the semi, loaded with cannabis, crossing into California.

Bob Warren retired in 2012 as the regional business development officer for Business Oregon for Lane, Lincoln, Linn and Benton counties. Prior to that, he was a senior policy advisor to Gov. Barbara Roberts and district aide and natural resource advisor for Rep. Peter DeFazio.



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Installation view of Leonardo Drew's 215B in *Strange Weather*

Artist Talk | Leonardo Drew


In conversation with Jordan D. Schnitzer

Wednesday, February 21 | 6 p.m.
Location: PLC 180, reception to follow at the JSMA





Artist Leonardo Drew, in conversation with Jordan D. Schnitzer, discusses his career as an artist and his immense and powerful installation, **215B**, currently on view in *Strange Weather: From the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation*. Although often mistaken for accumulations of found objects, Drew's sculptures are instead made of "brand new stuff"—materials such as wood, rusted iron, cotton, paper, and mud—that he intentionally subjects to processes of weathering, burning, oxidation, and decay. Whether jutting out from a wall or traversing rooms as freestanding installations, his pieces challenge the architecture of the space in which they're shown. Memories of his childhood surroundings—from the housing project where he lived to the adjacent landfill—resurface in the intricate grids and configurations of many of his pieces. Never content with work that comes easily, Drew constantly reaches beyond "what's comfortable" and charts a course of daily investigation, never knowing what the work will be about but letting it find its way, and asking, "What if..." Drew is also known for his boundary-breaking work in printmaking, which is also featured in *Strange Weather*.


Leonardo Drew's visit is sponsored by Jordan D. Schnitzer



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ERIC JACKSON

Photo by Keven Salazar

Eric Jackson 1966-2023

THE LOCAL HOMELESS ADVOCATE WAS KNOWN FOR HIS BIG HEART AND FOR BEING A THORN IN THE SIDE OF THE POLICE AND CITY

By Donald Morrison

Ask anyone and they'll tell you Pineapple had the biggest heart in Eugene.

To friends and family, Pineapple's selfless nature helped revive their faith in humanity and helped them see the world differently.

To the authorities tasked with corralling and criminalizing the unhoused in Lane County, he was a constant headache that proved very difficult to make go away, placing himself at the center of the never-ending conflict over how to address homelessness in Eugene.

Eric "Pineapple" Jackson — whose nickname derives from his trademark dreads that sprouted from his head like the top of a pineapple — died on the morning of Nov. 29 at PeaceHealth Riverbend. His sons, Max and Jake Jackson, said the cause was a perforated aorta stemming from life-saving heart surgery he received 15 days prior. He was 57.

"His heart was too big," a former Democratic candidate for governor Patrick Starnes said at a small gathering and viewing of Jackson's body on Nov. 30 at Andreason's Cremation & Burial Service.

Jackson was an entrepreneur, a marijuana enthusiast, a single father of two and a fearless advocate for people experiencing homelessness, partially because he'd been such a person himself. Beginning in 2018, he lived in tents throughout Lane County, campaigning against city and police abuse of Eugene's homeless and working tirelessly to include their voices in political decision-making.

His various protest camps became the stuff of legend, and he even filed a federal lawsuit against the city over its treatment of the unhoused. He was like a modern-day Diogenes, the Greek philosopher who used his bare-bones lifestyle as a vehicle to condemn the institutions of what he saw as a corrupt and unjust society.

Jackson was born in New Jersey on Oct. 21, 1966. His family spent time in both Jersey and Long Island, New

York. He opened Echo Pizza & Wings in Echelon in 1987, an early example of his entrepreneurial spirit. His East Coast roots were evident in the way Jackson spoke quickly and with a certain brash confidence.

In the late 1980s, Jackson met the woman he would have two children with. The couple married but later separated, and his ex-wife eventually moved to Florida in 2011 with their two sons, Max and Jake.

Max remembers visiting his dad and running around Echo Pizza as a kid. He liked how his dad let him do what he wanted, which was in stark contrast to how things were at his mother's house. Max eventually became a photographer and traveled the country living out of an old ambulance converted into a recreational vehicle.

"One of my favorite memories is actually building a closet in my ambulance with him at a woodshop in Eugene," Max said. "We did a lot of work on the van that summer."

Seeing Max's wanderlust eventually led to Jackson leaving the East Coast for the first time. He and Max traveled and camped throughout the country over the years, with Max saying one of his favorite trips with his father was in Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

"That's the one that really stands out," Max said. "I keep thinking about it, that was our second road trip. My trailer tried to run us off the road, but I have a great picture of us out at our campsite, the mountains in the background."

To those who knew Jackson in New Jersey, there might appear to be a disconnect between the person he was on the East Coast and who he would become known as in Eugene. The always-friendly pizza-slinger from the East Coast was now purposely living in a tent to bring attention to the plight of the homeless in a city he had no connection with. But Max said his father has always been eccentric and has always been devoted to helping others.

"He gave away food and helped people in need at the pizza place," Max said. "It's wild seeing where he ended up and how many lives he's impacted. He helped people everywhere he went."

Jackson crash-landed in Eugene in early 2018 with the sole purpose of smoking good weed and helping the unhoused. Before that, he lived for a time in Colorado on "Stoner Hill," the nickname for Commons Park in Denver that became popular among smokers, gifters, hippies and the homeless after recreational marijuana was legalized in 2014.

It was there that he heard about Lane County, home to more than 1,500 unhoused people, according to that year's Point In Time survey.

"I told them that I looked at the 1,500 homeless in Eugene and said, 'That's the size of our graduating high school class,'" Jackson told *Eugene Weekly* in 2021. "How could they not house these people? It's fucking ridiculous."

Jackson's arrival in Eugene coincided with the 2018 appeals court decision, *Martin v. Boise*, holding that cities can't enforce anti-camping bans if there aren't available homeless shelter beds.

Jackson quickly made noise by putting that law to the test and becoming the public face of a protest camp formed around the Butterfly Lot parking structure, across Oak Street from the Lane County Courthouse.

The Butterfly Lot camp forced Lane County to open an official homeless camp on Hwy 99 to relocate homeless campers who were congregating across from the courthouse. Jackson was one of the campers who took on a leadership role at Camp 99, before the county shut it down in January 2019. Jackson said the county cited bogus cleanliness claims so they could shut it down before it had a chance to succeed.

In early 2020, Jackson and 75-year-old Pat Hadley had taken refuge in a couple of makeshift camps in front of former Eugene mayoral candidate Zondie Zinke's house. Zinke said Jackson spent that summer taking care of Hadley in the face of constant ticketing by the EPD and even watching over her two kids.

"His range of consideration and empathy for people was astounding," Zinke said. "For Eric, being in touch with people is what energized him every day."

Jackson was also a regular at Eugene City Council meetings, having given statements nearly two dozen times since 2018. *Whole Community News* put together a comprehensive audio anthology of Jackson's statements over the years.

The first time Jackson spoke to the City Council was in June 2018. He'd only lived in the state for 105 days at that time, according to his statement. He asked the city for initiatives to create low-income housing and urged city leaders to quit banning people from sleeping in public parks.

His last statement to the City Council was on Sept. 11, 2023. He pleaded for transparency among the Eugene police when they're dealing with the unhoused, and warned the community about the health impacts of relocating the unhoused during the winter months.

"Winter sweeps are coming again," Jackson said. "Winter sweeps probably took five to 10 years off my lifespan, and it's not fair."

Jackson eventually racked up more than \$12,000 in fines, with court documents showing that between Jan. 4 and Dec. 16, 2019, he was cited for prohibited camping 53 times. This is along with scores of citations and small violations also listed in the documents.

These fines became the impetus to a court case filed by Jackson that seemed like a culmination of all of his work with the unhoused in Lane County.

In June 2020, Jackson and about a dozen other plaintiffs from the protest camps filed a federal lawsuit against the Eugene police, the city of Eugene and Lane County, among other people individually named, claiming that the city violated his constitutional rights by continually criminalizing Jackson's way of life and the way of life for thousands of unhoused Eugeneans.

Jackson's court case never quite got off the ground, and it likely died with him. However, his vision for a better Eugene that treats its unhoused population with dignity and respect still lives on through the thousands of people he impacted over the years.

Zinke said more than 50 people showed up to an impromptu celebration of life and viewing of Jackson's body on Nov. 30, a day after he died. Among the attendees were retired minister Wayne Martin, co-director of Carry It Forward Kris McAlister and community activist Todd Boyle.

"My first conversation with Jackson, I walk up and go, 'Hi, I'm Kris,' and he goes, 'Oh you're Kris? I'm Eric and I'm here to tell you that you've been doing it wrong, and I'm here to show you how it's gonna be done,'" McAlister said at the gathering. "Eric and I, we saw the same outcomes, but we did it so differently. He challenged me."

Jackson was a dependable force for those in his life. He was the glue for a large community of unhoused people in Eugene, someone who connected others and went out of his way to make sure people were safe on the streets. The pineapple is an international symbol of hospitality,

something Jackson embodied for the many of the local people who don't have a house to live in.

Jackson spent his last night surrounded by friends and family who'd flown out to accompany him during his heart surgery. Max said his late night phone calls with his father are what he's going to miss most.

"He was who I'd call to talk to on the phone with for three or four hours in the middle of the night if I needed someone," Max said. "Not having that is going to really fucking suck."

4J Superintendent Investigation Continues

SUPERINTENDENT ANDY DEY'S FUTURE AT 4J REMAINS UNCLEAR IN THE FACE OF ALLEGATIONS HE RETALIATED AGAINST A TEACHER

By Camilla Mortensen

Andy Dey won the top job at the Eugene School District 4J less than two years ago with a reputation as a heavy-handed administrator.

The 4J School Board selected Dey as 4J's superintendent in June 2022, despite hearing allegations that he used bullying tactics, especially toward female employees, while serving as an administrator. Most of the complaints were anonymous — several said they feared retaliation if Dey learned the names of people raising concerns about him.

At the time, Dey issued a statement telling KEZI news that he welcomed a "full and open investigation," and he "would participate in any such investigation willingly and honestly."

The allegations divided the board, and Dey won the superintendent's job on a 4-3 vote. Dey didn't address the concerns publicly but instead spoke with optimism and hope about his tenure as superintendent.

"I have the opportunity to work with a world-class team of professionals in service to the community and students and families," he said after his hiring. "It's very exciting to work with such dedicated colleagues."

Now, Dey could be in danger of losing his job in the face of new allegations.

As *Eugene Weekly* first reported Jan. 26, Dey faces an investigation into claims he discriminated against a school employee and then threatened to retaliate against

her. Sources familiar with the matter say the employee is a grade school teacher. The school board hired a Seattle law firm to investigate the complaint, and sources familiar with the case say the results are now in the hands of board members. Sources also tell *EW* that the investigation revealed other allegations of misconduct.

School Board Chair Maya Rabasa, who voted to hire Dey, has declined to discuss or confirm the investigation. Dey has not responded to *EW*'s request for comment.

According to 4J, Dey previously "served as the district's director of secondary education, overseeing middle and high schools." He was also principal of South Eugene High School. He also served in the Springfield School District as principal of Agnes Stewart Middle School and assistant principal of Thurston High School.

It's not yet clear what action the school board members might take regarding Dey.

Board members have met three times in executive session since Jan. 24. Executive sessions are held behind closed doors, and board members have not disclosed the subject of those meetings. But public notices for the executive sessions did say that meetings were held to "consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear

complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent."

The options for the school board are limited.

The board might decide that the allegations against Dey are unwarranted. If so, the board could dismiss the complaint and decline to reveal its findings to the public.

The board might conclude one or more of the allegations are substantiated. In that case, the board could take various disciplinary actions, including firing Dey or declining to renew his contract.

EW has asked school officials for a copy of Dey's contract and annual salary — both public records. The newspaper is still waiting for a response. Media reports show

the previous superintendent, Gustavo Balderas, had a base salary of \$241,500 when he left.

Ending Dey's tenure as superintendent could send the district into another leaderless stretch. Balderas resigned in 2020. The search for his replacement took more than two years, hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic and disagreement among board members about how to proceed.

Sophia Cossette and Tristin Hoffman of the Catalyst Journalism Project at the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication contributed to this story.



SUPERINTENDENT
ANDY DEY

Courtesy 4J

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<https://stopsmartmeters.org/why-stop-smart-meters/>
 OSU Researchers: Smart Meters Can Be Hacked for Power Grid Sabotage by Brian Bull 5.9.23
Facebook Families for Safe Technology

slant

• Frequent Slant readers know we like to reference *The New York Times*, but we're pretty sure that's not what led the NYT to cover this local paper not once, but twice in a month — it's because, you, the community, rose up to help! **You've been saving the Weekly, now buy the T-shirt!** It's thanks to the tremendous community response that you are reading this Slant column in your slightly ink-stained hands. Thank you! As we move forward, we appreciate the ongoing support to help us get back on our feet. Read all about it in this week's issue and head on over to buy the T-shirt at CaffePacori.com/shop, and if you don't need a T-shirt, you can fund the little paper that could at Support.EugeneWeekly.com.

• Speaking such things as shopping and money, **that's one way to show your local support for Black-owned businesses this month**, by putting your money where your mouth is. Let's be clear, supporting Black-owned businesses should be a year-round goal, but in honor of Black History Month, make it an immediate goal. You can find a list of Black-owned and other diverse businesses here put together by Lane County by Googling "diverse business directory" Eugene (the directory is great, the URL is a wee bit unwieldy).

• **The new YMCA in south Eugene is far beyond expectations**, from its facilities to the details like the murals and the view to the huge crowds using it. Time to bring up our familiar hope that a "Y Annex" will be built across the river to serve that population. It's just a matter of will and money.

• **Mark your calendar — the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC) will convene at the University of Oregon, March 1-3.** PIELC brings many leading environmental advocates to town to collaborate, share skills, and inspire. This year's PIELC will have an international flavor, as the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide is bringing leading environmental lawyers from roughly 50 countries all over the world. The conference hits home the global and local implications of climate change and exploitation of our natural resources.

• **City Club of Eugene's** Friday, Feb. 8, program "explores current activities and progress of the University of Oregon's Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health." The free noon gathering is at Inn at the 5th in the Maple Room. Pondering other events? *EW's* What's Happening Calendar is back in print!

• Perhaps the second time will be the charm on Feb. 11 when the San Francisco 49ers play the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl LVIII in Las Vegas, a rematch of the 2019 Super Bowl won by Kansas City. **Then again, the Chiefs now have America's greatest influencer, Taylor Swift, cheering them on, so the deck might be stacked against the 49ers.** If Kansas City wins, does this mean we all become Swifties? Can a polarized nation handle that?




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Here's Your Damn Paper

AND HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY — WE'RE FEELING THE LOVE

It was a sick feeling, before Christmas, when the staff here at *Eugene Weekly* realized this paper had been the victim of embezzlement.

It was an even sicker feeling when we realized the extent of the damage that had been done by the embezzlement was compounded by financial mismanagement.

The *Weekly* has never taken things lying down, but this was a gut punch. We were financially drained, deeply in debt and emotionally strung out. With no money for payroll we laid off our entire staff.

And then we put out the question we knew our readers would be asking: Where's the damn paper?

Well, *here's* your damn paper.

And it is *your* damn paper because it's you who saved it. We were fighting, but it was the community who rose up to keep our inky pages in those red boxes. One minute we were going under and our plight was making headlines in *The New York Times*, the *Associated Press*, *The Washington Post* and newspapers across the country. Local TV stations and KLCC jumped in first, as did *The Register-Guard*.

They asked some of the questions you were asking, including: Who did this? And, more importantly, can the *Weekly* survive?

The criminal investigation is ongoing — in the hands of forensic accountants and the Eugene Police Department. We know who did it. Would we love to say more? Yes. And we will. But, right now it's an open investigation.

The other news sources asked: How do you feel? Crushed and hopeful.

In a time when local papers across the country are disappearing, the weird and wonderful community here in Lane County is changing the story.

This unique paper that punches above its weight in investigative journalism, launches the careers of countless reporters and sometimes sports an occasional typo is printing — the week before Valentine's Day.

The story isn't over yet. We're still plotting our path forward. We're still fundraising. We've brought in a new, outside accountant and a local businessman has been looking at our financial model. We're also talking to experts in the industry about how to be the *Weekly* you love and more. We are back in the red boxes, we are still punching, and we still need a little help from our friends.

Support.EugeneWeekly.com. — *Camilla Mortensen*

So Many Giving So Much

Within hours of *Eugene Weekly* posting about the embezzlement, offers to contribute and fundraise poured in. As the paper looked at more than \$200,000 in losses and debt, the community looked at its local newspaper and community touchstone, and said, "Not so fast."

EW's GoFundMe page is filled with notes that brought tears to staffers' eyes. Checks in the mail came with even more poignant messages about what the *Weekly* meant to our readers.

And businesses — some of them hurt by the January ice storm — rose up to support the paper. Coffee stand **Metro Brü** was among the first, posting, "Our local paper we keep stocked outside the shop has been a victim of embezzlement and we would like to donate \$1 from each drink on Wednesday 1/10."

If you are looking for Valentine's ideas, longtime *EW* advertiser **Harlequin Beads and Jewelry** held a two-day fundraiser in mid-January and re-upped their ads in the paper when they heard it was going to print. **Pearl Day Spa** held a five day fundraiser giving *EW* 5 percent of proceeds.

Tracktown Pizza held one of its daylong flyer fund-



raisers Feb. 7, and **New Zone Gallery** has kicked off an art sale (see the What's Happening Calendar). On the horizon is an event at 255 Madison Feb. 16 to 18.

That's a lot of love. — *Camilla Mortensen*

Metro Brü is at 2378 W. 11th Ave. *Pearl Day Spa* is 1375 Pearl St, *ThePearlDaySpa.com*. *Harlequin Beads and Jewelry* is 2833 Willamette St., A, *HarlequinBeads.com*. *Track Town Pizza* is 1809 Franklin Blvd. *TracktownPizza.com*.

Caffe Pacori's Creativity Saving Eugene Weekly

When *Eugene Weekly* was going under, Eric Pierce, **Caffé Pacori** owner, wanted to do more. After some discussion with their designer, Brit Howard, Pierce and Howard made a decision together. At the time, no one was stepping up to make fundraising T-shirts, so they wanted to "do more, but not in a tacky way."

That is where the idea for an iconic custom *Eugene Weekly* T-shirt and poster design came to be.

Howard is behind the timeless design featuring *EW's* iconic red box alongside eye-catching colors and shapes. The garments, screen printing and ink are all the courtesy of Pacori, along with their white-glove delivery service.

Howard wanted to make something that people could wear even after the *Weekly* got back on track, and indeed she did. The shirts are being extended for pre-order

through Feb. 11. Caffé Pacori's goal is to sell 1,000 shirts, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to *EW*.

Howard says, "Local journalism is so important. I hate reading on my Kindle, and I need my horoscopes in print." — *Faheem Khan*

255 Wallis St., Suite 3, Eugene. Order a T-shirt or coffee at *Caffé Pacori.com/shop*.

Bo's Got EW's Back

Longtime Eugene resident, wine proprietor and owner of **Bo's Wine Depot** Boris "Bo" Wiedenfeld-Needham believes that Eugene would lose part of its core identity if *Eugene Weekly* went away.

That's why from sunrise on Friday, Feb. 9, to sundown on Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 percent of all sales made at both Bo's Wine Depot locations in Eugene and Springfield will benefit *EW*.

"I've lived in Eugene for a long time," Bo says. "I can't imagine Eugene without the *Eugene Weekly*."

"Eugene would lose one more thing that makes Eugene, Eugene," he says. Without the *Weekly*, Bo says, Eugene would lose an important cornerstone facilitating watchdog journalism that holds the powers that be accountable.

"We need a muckraker like *Eugene Weekly*," he says. 364 E. 40th Ave., Eugene and 1879 Pioneer Parkway E., Springfield, *BosDepot.com*. — *Bentley Freeman*

50/50 Catch

Baseball season approaches and so does a 50/50 fundraiser hosted by the **Eugene Emeralds** for *Eugene Weekly*

The *Weekly* will hit a home run this spring as local MiLB team Eugene Emeralds plan to fundraise and support the newspaper. The Ems kick-off their season in early April. “We’ll pick a Friday or Saturday night, a big night,” says Allan Benavides, Eugene Emeralds general manager. “Let’s get a bunch of people there.”

EW won’t strike out or be left on base with the help of the team. Once a game night is chosen, half of the ticket proceeds will go to the newspaper. The Ems are hands-on when it comes to the community, whether it’s the Girls and Boys Club, the Scouts or this radical newspaper. “It’s what we do in the community year round that I think has given us” community and support, Benavides says. When the sun starts shining again and the flowers start blooming, head down to PK Park for a cold beer, a glizzy and a good time supporting your local paper and cheering on the team. — *Brianna Murschel*

More info on Eugene Emeralds at MiLB.com/Eugene. Keep updated on Instagram about events and games at @EugeneEmeralds.

Sweet People of Sweet Life

Sweet Life Patisserie helped lead the charge — fundraising for *Eugene Weekly* on Jan. 9 — hoping to inspire other locally owned businesses to help out. Sweet Life co-owner Catherine Reinhart says it was devastating to see what happened.

“What a horrible Christmas,” she says of the shutdown and layoffs right before the holiday.

After seeing Jan. the 4 Tacovore fundraiser, Reinhart decided with her business partner and sister Cheryl Reinhart to do what they could to get the word out, in hopes of inspiring other businesses to join the charge.

“We’re so proud of having a local newspaper that does something that no other local publication does,” Reinhart says. “It helps keep the community feeling like a small community... that we’re all still connected.”

“It would be devastating to have the *Weekly* go away,” she says. “We’d be losing a really important part of our town.” — *Bentley Freeman*

1609 E. 19th Ave. or 755 Monroe St., SweetLifeDesserts.com.

out to see if he could do a fundraiser, which took place Thursday, Jan. 18, as the community was recovering from the ice storm. The restaurant donated a portion of all the day’s sales to the paper.

With *EW* returning to print after more than a month of being fully online, Marzano says he is thrilled that Hot Mama’s played a part in bringing the paper back to the community.

“I’m happy that [*Eugene Weekly*] wasn’t taken away from our town,” Marzano says. “Eugene is very fortunate that they were able to raise enough money for the *Weekly* to go back into print because once again, it’s more the city’s paper than anyone else.” — *David Ainsworth*

420 W. 13th Ave. HotMamasWings.com.

Nelson’s Helps *EW* One Spicy Margarita at a Time

The Mexican restaurant in the Whiteaker that has dominated *EW*’s *Best Of* issue in recent years, winning awards including Best Restaurant, Best New Restaurant, Best Server, Best Latin American Food and for, its food cart, Best Take Out and Best Food Truck, put on a fundraiser for the *Weekly* last month. On Wednesday, Jan. 10 **Nelson’s in the Whit** donated \$1 of every menu item sold to help fill up those red boxes.

“The *Weekly* has helped establish Nelson in the Eugene area and brought him to a wider audience that maybe wasn’t in the Whit,” Nelson’s co-owner, TJ Mooney says. “We wanted to be there for you guys.”

Nelson’s raised \$500 for the *Weekly* through its fundraiser and their own contributions to the cause.

Mooney adds, “We’re a community; we help each other out.” — *Emerson Brady*

400 Blair Blvd. NelsonsintheWhit.com

Tacobout Love for *Eugene Weekly*

In early January, **Tacovore** took to social media to spread awareness about the *Eugene Weekly*’s embezzlement and ceasing to print. “We really don’t want our true local paper to go out of print in weird times like these. Keep it weird, Eugene, and keep it *Weekly*,” the popular

to the paper’s struggles and that the staff wants to see it back in print.

“It felt really good. We hope it helped.” — *Alicia Santiago*

530 Blair Blvd. Tacovorepnw.com

Cuchulain’s Hybrid Benefit

Cuchalain loves *Eugene Weekly*’s snarky liberal sensibility. “Your words, not mine,” the musician tells *EW* in a phone call (and he’s right).

Cuchulain — his real first name, which he performs as and only goes by in the press; say it “Ka-HOO-Lin” — moved to Eugene with his wife in 2020 from the California Bay Area. *EW*, he says, also helped them find stuff to do in town. So, when news of the paper’s financial problems broke, Cuchalain wanted to help.

A full-time musician, in late January, the singer-songwriter held an *EW* benefit at **The Hybrid Gallery** in the Whit, playing acoustic-leaning, singer-songwriter fare sung in a baritone and showcasing a subtle sense of humor, a little like Randy Newman, Jonathan Richman or David Byrne.

Showcasing his full band line-up, Cuchulain also entered the 2024 NPR’s Tiny Desk contest for a chance to appear on the beloved online series with a Brazilian-flavored song featuring horns and a bossa-nova-ish groove, “Darling, Don’t Sing ToMe So Sweetly.” — *Will Kennedy*

Search Cuchulain on YouTube or streaming platforms and give this relatively new addition to Eugene’s music scene a listen.

Old Nick’s for *EW*

Emily Chappell’s decision to host a *Eugene Weekly* benefit at her business highlights the impact of local journalism. Chappell, who owns and operates **Old Nick’s Pub** in the Whit, says *EW*’s reporting helped her insurance company backtrack on covering part of her cancer treatment.

“The *Eugene Weekly* coverage is probably one of the reasons they reversed their decision, and it saved my life,” Chappell continues in an email. “Besides that, times are hard for all of us. It’s vital that we support one another and our cultural institutions. The *Eugene Weekly* is the heart of the community and has to be protected,” Chappell says.

Eugene’s Grrlband, several local comedians and local DJs chipped in at the Old Nick’s benefit. Look out for Dungeons & Dragons events, magician’s brunches, drag events and a Mystic faire at Old Nick’s soon, Chappell adds.

“I hope 2024 is a better year for all of us, and it certainly will be if we can all come together as a community and support and love one another,” Chappell says. — *Will Kennedy*

211 Washington St., OldNicksPub.com.

WOW Hall Raising Love for *EW*

WOW Hall had us dancing the night away at its *Eugene Weekly* Benefit Concert last month. The night kicked off with an open mic featuring musical acts from community members and later local acoustic bands such as Wellington Drive, the Back 40 and The Check graced the stage with tunes and words of support for the paper.

“The *Eugene Weekly* is a voice for the community,” says Deb Maher, WOW’s director of operations. “It’s important to us at the WOW Hall and the community as a whole to see *Eugene Weekly* continue.”

Maher says that event attracted a crowd of all-ages and was attended by 150 people. In addition to live music, the fundraiser also held a raffle with prizes such as a photograph of Jerry Garcia with the Grateful Dead done by a local photographer. The event raised \$2,500 with all of the proceeds going towards supporting the *Weekly*. — *Emerson Brady*

WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. WOWHall.org.

*And it is your damn paper
because it’s you who saved it.
We were fighting, but it was
the community who rose up
to keep our inky pages in those red boxes.*

Hot Mama’s Wings helps *EW* fly again

Michael Marzano has owned **Hot Mama’s Wings** with his wife, Angie Marzano, since its founding in 2011. Since the restaurant opened, his goal has been to make it a strong part of the community. “Hot Mama’s Wings is more Eugene’s than mine,” Marzano says.

Marzano also considers *Eugene Weekly* to be an integral part of Eugene’s community. He has read the paper often, and its office is located close to Hot Mama’s Wings.

When he heard about the embezzlement and that *EW* was forced to discontinue printing, Marzano reached

taco restaurant posted on its Facebook page Jan. 3. On Jan. 4, the taco shop held an all-day fundraiser. Community members came out for tacos, chips and guacamole and, of course, the restaurant’s extensive drink menu despite dry January being in effect for some.

“We had a great turnout and everyone was asking about it,” Tash Alo, Tacovore assistant general manager, says of the fundraiser. “We all miss the *Eugene Weekly* and we get on our breaks and do the crossword,” she says of how much the paper means to the staff.

Alo says that 200 or more people turned out that day to support the cause. “It was almost every other person in line was asking about it and making sure their money was for sure going to them [*EW*],” she says.

Alo says they hope the fundraiser brought visibility

what's happening

It was love for each from the first letter, but can the words in that correspondence from the Lonely Hearts Club be trusted? Will Amalia Balash (Claire Kepple, pictured) and Georg Noweck (Henry Morton) stop snarling at each other, discover that they are the letter writers and declare their love for each other just before Valentine's Day? The Non-Stop Players, a resident company of Actors Cabaret of Eugene, takes you on Amalia's and Georg's jagged love story in Budapest, Hungary, in the comedy musical ***She Loves Me***, which has three final performances at ACE. *She Loves Me* has a rich history, starting with the premiere of a play called *The Parfumerie* in Hungary in 1937. Hollywood got a hold of it with its variations, first in 1940 with the film *The Shop Around the Corner*, starring Jimmy Stewart and Margaret Sullivan, and most recently with the 1998 movie *You've Got Mail*, starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan. It made its debut on Broadway in 1963, and a 2016 Broadway revival is the version of the musical The Non-Stop Players, directed by Karen Olsen, is using for this production.

The Non-Stop Players perform She Loves Me at 7:30 pm Friday, Feb. 9, and Saturday, Feb. 10, and 2 pm Sunday, Feb. 11, at Actors Cabaret of Eugene, 996 Willamette St. Tickets are \$19 to \$55 at ActorsCabaret.org. More information about The Non-Stop Players, a nonprofit, is at TheNonStopPlayers.org.

— Dan Buckwalter



Photo Credit: Photos courtesy of The Non-Stop Players

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 8

ART/CRAFT

Open Your Hearts — New Zone Gallery Fundraiser for *EW*, noon-6pm thru. Wed., Feb. 21, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave. Don.

Paint & Sip — Sunset Love — Couples Night, 6:30-8:30pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St., Ste. 104. \$45-60.

CIVICS

Sustainability Commission Food Waste Prevention Committee, 9:30am. Online at Eugene-OR.gov.

HRC — Advocacy Work Group, 5-6pm. Online at Eugene-OR.gov.

Police Commission Meeting, 5:30pm. Online at Eugene-OR.gov.

FILM

Paprika, 7:30pm today & 6:30pm Sun., Feb. 11, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$10.50-12.50.

FOOD/DRINK

Stout Month Kick-Off w/ Fort George, 5-8pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette. FREE samples.

GATHERINGS

Flourish Networking Eugene, 1-2:30pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Oregon Wine LAB, 488 Lincoln St. \$30 per month.

SEAIC General Coalition Meeting, 5-6pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette. FREE.

Queer, Trans & Disability Group, 6-7pm today & Thu. Feb. 15. Email Info@Transponder.Community for link. FREE.

Codependents Anonymous (CoDA) Meeting, 7-8pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Wellsprings Friends School, 3590 W. 18th Ave. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

Origami, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

Preschool Storytime, 10:15-10:45am today & Thu. Feb. 15, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS

The Big Read Panel Discussion, noon-2pm, Campbell Community Ctr., 155 High St. FREE.

MUSIC

The Jazz Symbiosis Duo & Friends, jazz, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards & Wine Co., 907 W. 3rd Ave. N/C.

Whiteaker Hot Club, swing-gypsy jazz, 6:30pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. N/C.

Gerry Rempel Trio, jazz-soul-latin, 7pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. N/C.

The Hank Shreve Trio, blues-rock-funk, 7pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette. N/C.

Banter Waves w/ Tim McLaughlin, James West & Dorian Crow, jazz-hip-hop-funk, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$15.

Booked By Mistake, Carrier Pigeon & Natty-O, party rock-pop-funk-blues, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

Funk Jam!, 9pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Luckey's Club, 933 Olive St. N/C.

NIGHTLIFE

Beginners Board Game Night, 5pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Funagain Games Game Parlor, 2711 Oak St. FREE.

Karaoke w/ Jeff, 6pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Slice Pizzeria & Bar, 325 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Cribbage Night, 6:30pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Falling Sky Brewpub, 1334 Oak Alley. \$5.

Trivia Night w/ Brett, 6:30pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Viking Brewing Co., 520 Commercial St., Unit F. FREE.

Trivia Night w/ Forest, 7pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave. FREE.

Word Open Mic, 7pm, Wordcrafters, 438 Charnelton St., Ste. 102. \$5.

Karaoke Thursdays, 7:30pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION

Ninkasi Run Club, 5:30pm today & Thu. Feb. 15, The Ninkasi Better Living Rm., 155 Blair Blvd. FREE.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College Men's Basketball: Oregon vs. Washington, 7pm, Matthew Knight Arena. More info at GoDucks.com or Pac-12.com.

FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 9

ART/CRAFT

A City for the Arts, noon, Midtown Art Ctr., 174 E. 16th Ave. FREE.

Academy of Arts & Academics Arts Engagement Night, 5-8pm, 615 Main St., Spfd. FREE.

Spfd's 2nd Friday Art Walk, 5-7:30pm, Downtown Spfd. FREE.

Paint & Sip — Moonlit Dance, 6:30-8:30pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St., Ste. 104. \$45.

CIVICS

Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission Meeting, 7:30am, Spfd. City Hall, library meeting rm. 225 5th St., Spfd.

COMEDY

All Duck'd Up: A Spfd. Comedy Open Mic, 5pm, Twisted Duck, 533 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd. FREE.

DANCE

Gatsby w/ Orchestra Next's Jazz Ensemble & Suzanne Haag's *Portrait in Glass*, 7:30pm today & 2pm Sat., Feb. 10, Hult Ctr. \$15-65.

DRAG

Drag Bingo, 8pm, 255 Madison St. \$5.

FILM

Full Metal Jacket, 7pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

My Bloody Valentine, 9:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

GATHERINGS

Yawn Patrol's Toastmasters Club, 6:15-7:45am, Mahonia Bldg., 120 Shelton McMurphy Blvd. FREE.

Recovery Dharma Buddhist Meeting, 10-11:30am, Jesco Club, 340 Blair Blvd. FREE.

LGBTQ+ Youth Group, 4-6pm, Amazon Community Ctr., 2700 Hilyard St. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

Family Storytime, 10:15-10:45am, Sheldon Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1566 Coburg Rd. FREE.

MUSIC

Skip Jones & The Spirit of New Orleans, blues-pop-rock, 7pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. N/C.

David Wilcox w/ Jean Rohe, folk, 7:30pm, Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd. \$27.50-30.

UO Small Jazz Ensembles, jazz, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$15.

MarchFourth, funk-rock-jazz, 8pm, WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. \$25-29.

The Blu Aces, rock-blues, 8pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette. \$7.

Meow Mix, electronic-hip-hop, 9pm, The Cooler Bar, 20 Centennial Lp. N/C.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke w/ Lewie, 9pm, Slice Downtown, 910 Willamette. FREE.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College Women's Basketball: Oregon at Colorado, 6pm. More info at GoDucks.com or Pac-12.com.

TEENS

Teen Talk: Neurodivergence, 4pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd. FREE.

THEATER

The Magical Moombah: Under The Big Top, 10am today & Sat., Feb. 10 & 1pm Sun., Feb. 11, The Shedd. \$5.

Steel Magnolias, 7pm today & Sat., Feb. 10 & 3pm Sun., Feb. 11, Pegasus Playhouse, 402 Main St., Spfd. \$16-21.

Frankenstein, 7:30pm today & Sat., Feb. 10 & 2:30pm Sun., Feb. 11, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove. \$15-29.

She Loves Me, 7:30pm today & Sat., Feb. 10 & 2pm Sun., Feb. 11, Actors Cabaret of Eugene, 996 Willamette. \$19-55.

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 10

ART/CRAFT

Figure Art Sessions, 10am-1pm, LCC, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Studio 136, Bldg. 5. \$8 drop-in.

FARMERS MARKETS

Winter Farmers Market, 10am-2pm, Farmers Market Pavilion, 85 E. 8th Ave.

FILM

My Bloody Valentine, 11am & 9:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

Full Metal Jacket, 1:30pm, 4:15pm & 7pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

FOOD/DRINK

Aquarius Extravaganza, 8pm, BNF Kombucha & Jun Brewery & Tasting Rm., 2495 Prairie Rd., Unit A. \$28-35.

GATHERINGS

The Joriad North American Truffle Dog Competition, 9am-noon, Ln. Events Ctr., 796 W. 13th Ave. \$20-25.



Overeaters Anonymous, 9:30-10:30am, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave. FREE.

Trans Community Support Group, 11am-12:30pm. Email info@transponder.community for location. FREE.

TransParent Group, 11am-noon, Theo's Coffee House, 199 W. 8th Ave., #1. FREE.

Valentine's Flash Day & Menstrual Supply Drive, 11am-7pm, Wild Rose Tattoo, 2849 Oak St. Discounted rates.

Psychedelic Film, Discussion Circle & Library Browsing, noon-2pm, EDELIC Ctr., 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B. Sliding scale \$10-25.

HEALTH

Occupy Medical Services, 9-11am, Washington Jefferson Park, Washington St. & W. 5th Ave. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

Baby & Toddler Storytime, 10:15-10:45am, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd. FREE.

Family Storytime, 10:15-10:45am, 11-11:30am & 11:45am-12:15pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

21 Days to Health: Detoxify Your Life w/ Yaakov Levine, FNTP, 11am-noon, Natural Grocers, 201 Coburg Rd. FREE.

Windborne Vocal Workshop, 3:30pm, Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd. \$22.50-25.

LITERARY ARTS

Women, Myth & Culture, 9:30am-noon, Baker Downtown Ctr., 975 High St. \$95-135.

February Youth Write Club: Writing Unique Horror, 10am-noon, Wordcrafters, 438 Charnelton St., Ste. 102. \$29.

MUSIC

Scott Austin, singer-songwriter, 2pm, Sarver Winery, 25600 Mayola Ln. N/C.

Dueling Pianos, 7pm, WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. \$50.

Étouffée, fiddle-rock, 7pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. N/C.

Valentine's Day Music w/ THC, R&B-hip-hop, 7pm, 255 Madison St. \$10.

Rootdown, reggae-rock-hip-hop, 7:30pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. N/C.

The Skyler Floe NYC Quintet w/ Chris Bittner, Samantha Louise, Stanley Ruvinov & Xavier Lecutourier, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$20.

Windborne, folk, 7:30pm, Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd. \$22.50-25.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke w/ Lewie, 9pm, Slice Downtown, 910 Willamette. FREE.

Red Raven Follies, 9pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$10.

SOCIAL DANCE

Contra Dance, 7pm, The Village School, 3411 Willamette. \$12-20.

Ghost House Goth Night, 9pm, Old Nick's Pub, 211 Washington St. \$5.

90s vs 2000s Dance Party, 10pm, Blairally, 245 Blair Blvd. \$6.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College Men's Basketball: Oregon vs. Washington State, 2pm, Matthew Knight Arena. More info at GoDucks.com or Pac-12.com.

TEENS

Queer Eugene Teen Time, 2-4pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 11

ART/CRAFT

String Painting, 1-5pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

Paint & Sip — Eiffel Tower, 2-4pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St., Ste. 104. \$35.

Valentine's Day Couples Paint n' Sip w/ Sierra, 3-5pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

COMEDY

Come On In! Open Mic, 7:30pm, The Barn Light Bar, 924 Willamette. FREE.

FILM

Romeo & Juliet, 1pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$16-19.

Full Metal Jacket, 1:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

My Bloody Valentine, 4pm & 8:45pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

GATHERINGS

Loving Others, 10-11:30am, Baha'i Ctr., 1458 Alder St. FREE.

Sunday Gathering, 10:30-11:30am, The Center, 390 Vernal St. FREE.

Valentine's Day Sip n Shop, 2pm, 255 Madison St.

Nerds to Lovers, 4-8pm, Level Up, 1290 Oak St. Email pixiepanicmarket@gmail.com.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Valentines Day Heart Rope Workshop, 7-9pm, As You Like It: The Pleasure Shop, 1655 W. 11th Ave., #1. \$20.

MARKETS

Valentines Market, 11am-5pm, Inspiring Alignments, 1120 Bailey Hill Rd., Ste. 1.

MUSIC

Chamber Music Amici, piano pieces, 3pm today & 7:30pm Mon., Feb. 12, Wildish Community Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. \$5-45.

Juho Pohjonen Solo Piano Recital, 4pm, The LaSells Stewart Ctr., 875 SW. 26th St., Corvallis. \$30.

Shamrock Jam, traditional Irish, 6pm, The Pint Pot Pub, 195 E. 17th Ave. N/C.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke w/ Jeff, 6pm, Slice Pizzeria & Bar, 325 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Open Mic, 6pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. FREE.

Karaoke Sundays, 7:30pm, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd. FREE.

Muse Collective Valentines Special, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$9.

RECREATION

Yoga + Beer, 10:30-11:30am, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. \$25.

Eugene Community Ecstatic Dance & Movement, 11am-1pm, Eugene Community Ec-

static Dance, 246 Ivanhoe. FREE.

SOCIAL DANCE

Ballroom Dance Lesson & Party, 5:30-9pm, The Vet's Club, 1626 Willamette. \$5-10.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College Women's Basketball: Oregon at Utah, 11am. More info at GoDucks.com or Pac-12.com.

MONDAY

FEBRUARY 12

CIVICS

City Council Work Session, 5:30pm. Email Nvenhuda@eugene-or.gov.

HRC — Whole Eugene Community United Workgroup Meeting, 5:30pm. Online at Eugene-OR.gov.

Eugene City Council Meeting, 7:30pm, 101 W. 10th Ave.

COMEDY

Comedy Open Mic w/ Seth Milstein, 8-10pm, Slice Pizzeria & Bar, 325 Blair Blvd. FREE.

DANCE

Lord of the Dance, 7:30-9:30pm, The Hult Ctr. \$75.

FILM

Full Metal Jacket, 7pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

GATHERINGS

Finance Committee Meeting, 10:30am, Online link at UWSWCD.org. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

History Pub: Unruly Icebergs, 7pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. 8th Ave. FREE.

MUSIC

Women's Choral Society Spring Practice Season & Registration, 6:30-9pm, UO School of Music Rm. 163, 971 E. 18th Ave. \$105 per term.

NIGHTLIFE

Beats & Boards, 6:30pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. FREE.

Cribbage Night, 6:30pm, Coldfire Brewing Co., 263 Mill St. \$3.

Trivia Mondays, 6:30pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. FREE.

OUTDOORS

Fireside Council, 6-8pm, Cascadia Quest, 31740 Owl Rd. FREE.

SPIRITUAL

Mindful Integration & Breathwork w/ PSILO Temple, 7-9pm, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1300 Pearl St. FREE.

TEENS

Study Help, 4-6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 13

ART/CRAFT

Winter Show, 11am-4pm, Studio 7 Art Gallery, 87230 Central Rd.

Figure Art Sessions, 6:15-9pm, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave. \$8 drop-in.

CIVICS

Human Rights Commission-Economic Opportunities Work Group, 5:30-7pm. Online at Eugene-OR.gov.



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FILM

Romeo & Juliet, 7:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$16-19.

FOOD/DRINK

Hop Valley Brewing's 15th Birthday Celebration, 6pm, Hop Valley Brewing, 990 W. 1st Ave.

GATHERINGS

Volunteer Fair, 8:30-10:30am, Kidsports Civic Park Fieldhouse, 2054 Amazon Pkwy.

Board of Directors Meeting, 5pm, Online link at UWSWCD.org. FREE.

Talking Politics Get-together, 6-8pm, Oakshire, 207 Madison St. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

Baby Storytime, 10:15am, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

Toddler Storytime, 11am & 11:45am, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

Tween Games, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library, 100 W. 10th Ave. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Be Writing, 9:15-11:45am, Wordcrafters, 438 Charnelton St., Ste. 102. \$3.

Living w/ Memory Loss Class, 10am-noon, Waterford Grand, 600 Waterford Way. \$100.

Releasing w/ Writing, 11:30am-12:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave., Bldg. B. \$5-15.

Sips of Happiness Mindfulness, 1-2pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave., Bldg. B. \$15.

Adapting Ancient Practices to Our Changing Climate, 7-9pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave. FREE for members, \$5 nonmembers.

LITERARY ARTS

TransPonder Book Club, 5-6pm, Email Info@Transponder.Community for link. FREE.

MUSIC

Sam Bond's Garage Banned, proto-punk-garage rock, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. N/C.

NIGHTLIFE

Eugene Chess Club, 6pm, Bill & Tim's Barbecue & Tap House, 201 E. 13th Ave. FREE.

Karaoke w/ Jeff, 6pm, Slice Pizzeria & Bar, 325 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Bingo w/ Ty Connor, 6:30pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. FREE.

Killer Trivia Night, 7pm, Killer Burger, 50 W. Broadway. FREE.

Trivia Night, 7pm, The Ninkasi Better Living Rm., 155 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Trivia Tuesdays, 7pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. FREE.

Karaoke w/ Jeff, 9pm, John Henry's, 881 Willamette. FREE.

RECREATION

Zoom Tai Chi-inspired Active Movements, 1-1:45pm, Online link at WillametteValleyMassage.com. \$8.

SPIRITUAL

Sound Meditation, 7-8pm, Eugene Yoga South, 3575 Donald St., #180. \$25.

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 14

VALENTINE'S DAY

ART/CRAFT

Figure Art Sessions, 6:15-9pm, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave. \$8 drop-in.

Paint & Sip — Swans: Couples Night, 6:30-8:30pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St., Ste. 104. FREE.

CIVICS

City Council Work Session, noon. Email nvenhuda@eugene-or.gov.

FILM

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, 1-3:15pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd. FREE.

He Who Gets Slapped — Valentine's Day Silent Movie Night, 6-7:45pm, Shelton McMurphey Johnson House, 303 Willamette. \$6-10.

Twilight, 7pm, Whiteside Theatre, 461 SW. Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$5-8.

FOOD/DRINK

Valentines Dinner w/ Becco Fino & Chef Maurizio Bian-

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Liven up your home with eclectic and delightful local art, and help *Eugene Weekly* as well. New Zone Gallery in Eugene is having a fundraiser for *EW* — **Open Your Hearts** — through Feb. 21. At the moment, says Ralf Huber of the New Zone Artists Collective, there are 57 artworks on sale, from paintings to pottery. More may be on the way. A hundred percent of all sales proceeds will go to *EW*. Huber notes that when he moved to Eugene 13 years ago, “*EW* made my life richer by connecting me to places that I now enjoy visiting frequently and that I would otherwise not have heard of. For the last two months I walked by those red boxes, all empty, longingly looking at them.” He adds: “Rather than tolerating the void we and the public now face when it comes to insightful information about local arts and culture, the membership of the New Zone Artists Collective decided to join the efforts in rescuing *EW*.”

New Zone Gallery is located at 110 E. 11th Ave. and is open noon to 6 pm Tuesday through Sunday. — Dan Buckwalter

chi, 5:30 pm -9 pm, Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton St.

GATHERINGS

Death Café, 3-4:30pm, Cascade Health, 2650 Suzanne Way. RSVP at bit.ly/CascadeDeathCafe.

KIDS/FAMILY

Sensory Storytime, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Talk Time: Conversational English, 4:30-5:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

Community Philosophy Circle: Empathy, 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS

Author Anna Grace: Writing Romance, 5:30-6:30pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette. FREE.

MUSIC

Jesse Meade, singer-songwriter-acoustic, 6:30pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. N/C.

Jammin' with the Pros, jazz, 7pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$5.

Open Blues Jam w/ Dave Roberts, 7pm, Twisted Duck, 533 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd. N/C.

Shelley James & Callan Coleman, jazz, 7pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette. N/C.

Hanna Barakat & Lotis, alt. Rock-pop-world-funk, 8pm,

Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

NIGHTLIFE

Open Mic, 5pm, Mulligan's Pub, 2841 Willamette. FREE.

Klassy Karaoke, 6pm, 255 Madison St. \$10.

Bingo Wednesdays, 7pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. FREE.

SPIRITUAL

Eugene Sound Bath w/ PSILO Temple, 6:30pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. FREE for members, \$25 don. nonmembers.

22nd Annual World Sound Healing Day, 7:30-9pm, Unity of the Valley, 39th & Hilyard St. \$20.

TEENS

Self-Care Party, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 15

FILM

Full Metal Jacket, 1:30pm & 4:15pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

A Storm Foretold: Roger Stone & Die documentary, 6:30-8:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$9-12.

GATHERINGS

Hearing Voices & Different Realities Discussion & Support Group, 10-11:30am, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave., Bldg. B. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

STEAM Stories: Printmaking, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

(B.O.G.S.) Speaker Series w/ Dan Gleason: How Birds Survive Cold, 9-11am, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd. FREE.

Sandy Rodriguez: Codex Rodriguez-Mondragón, 4pm, UO Lawrence Hall, Rm.115. FREE.

Everything Tires w/ Jay Loew, Hutch's Bicycles & Greater Eugene Area Riders, 6:30-8pm, Hutch's Bicycles Eugene, 960 Charnelton St. FREE.

MUSIC

Day Mountain Travelers, psychedelic cowboy blues, 7pm, Mac's Restaurant &

Nightclub, 1626 Willamette. N/C.

Marc Siegel & The Flying Rutabagas, jazz-blues-soul, 7pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. N/C.

Natsukashii Soul w/ Autumn Rose, Frank Visconti, Vincent Panero, Greg McKelvey & Sam Hayward, jazz, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$15.

Matt Corman, C Dot Castro & Elena Leona Project, rap-hip-hop, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

THEATER

Frankenstein, 7:30pm, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove. \$15-29.

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Strange is Good

JSMA'S GROUP SHOW *STRANGE WEATHER* OFFERS EXPLOSIVE IMAGES ALONGSIDE WORK BY PRESIDENTIAL PORTRAITIST KEHINDE WILEY

By Ester Barkai

“By and by all trace is gone, and what is forgotten is not only the footprints but the water, too, and what is down there. The rest is weather.” This is a quote by author Toni Morrison that Rachel Nelson chose to include in the exhibition statement for *Strange Weather*, a group show she and Jennifer Gonzalez co-curated at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art. It runs in the museum’s Barker Gallery through April 7.

Authors and poets have traditionally referenced nature to speak of the eternal, or at least that which lasts longer than human life. But facing global warming, we need to reconsider. The strange new reality is that nature, or the weather, might be as temporal as our own existence.

Consequences of human interference are related to the themes around which this show revolves. The artists are a diverse group in terms of their cultures and stylistic approach, and were chosen by Gonzalez and Nelson to address the show’s themes: climate change and the effects of colonialism on Indigenous people and their lands.

The artists are both well known and up-and-coming. They include Carlos Almarez, Carlos Amoraes, Leonardo Drew, Joe Feddersen and Hock E Aye Vi Edgar Heap of Birds as well as James Lavadour, Nicola Lopez, Hung Liu, Julie Mehretu and Wendy Red Star. In addition, there’s Alison Saar, Lorna Simpson, Kiki Smith, Charles Wilbert White, Kehinde Wiley and Terry Winters.

Without a doubt, the most overwhelming art in the show is Drew’s installation “Number 215B.” It is a massive work that occupies an entire room in the gallery. Composed of wood shards adhered to the wall and even to the floor, it is a work of art that’s designed to resemble an explosion. Standing in the room, it seems as if the whole piece is blowing apart before your eyes.

The curators chose all the art from the Jordan Schnitzer Collection and Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation. That’s a collection of more than 20,000 pieces, and with its focus on contemporary art and artists of color, it served as a terrific resource for the themes of *Strange Weather*.

Gonzalez says they were told, “Feel free to choose any art you want.”

She and Nelson selected the grand-scale installation, but also works on paper (Schnitzer is known for having one of the nation’s largest print collections), oil paintings and a bronze sculpture by Saar called “Grow’d.”

“Number 215B” is installed at one end of the large gallery, and “Grow’d” sits at the opposite side. It is a life-sized portrayal of Topsy, the young enslaved girl from the novel *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. Saar cast the figure in bronze, yet it seems delicate, as the figure’s hair defies gravity. It grows up like the branches of a tree — a cotton tree. Each of her braids is tied to cotton, as is the character herself.

Saar gives the fictional Topsy the appearance of wearing a crown made of branches, and the effect transforms the character from her enslaved station to a regal position sitting on her bronzed bale seat, as if holding court for all who pass before her.

“Official Portraits: Citizen” and “Official Portraits: Proletarian” are contributions by Liu (1948-2021). They are prints with collage. Liu, like Saar, chose to portray subjects who had little status in their culture. Liu’s subjects, though, were often Chinese peasants who worked in the fields. She sought to transform their low position in life by depicting them among bright fields of



color. The signature drip, seen in her paintings, is absent in these prints, but the color, symbolism and flowers she uses in her portraits are all present.

Wiley paints people similarly, against intensely bright and floral grounds. You may recognize his work at once, an oil on canvas and double portrait called “Marechal Floriano Peixoto II.” That’s because Wiley rose to national recognition after painting President Barack Obama’s portrait for the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution. His style is highly realistic, and he places the people he paints — largely African American — among a pop background of flowers that sometimes dip into the foreground.

Wiley says he uses traditional approaches from Western art, like working with oil on canvas or appropriating

known works from Western art history, to create portraits of people who have traditionally been left out of the picture.

The title *Strange Weather* brings to mind changes in climate that may not be adaptable to the human species. It’s a heavy framework for an art show, yet the work itself, no matter how serious the subtext, is alternately light and surprising. Drew explains his process in the museum’s “Gallery Guide.” The distressed-looking wood pieces in his art were not found that way. He created the appearance of damage or age by a variety of processes, including burning and oxidation.

“I become the weather,” he says.

Strange Weather runs at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 1430 Johnson Lane on the University of Oregon campus, through April 7. Hours are 11 am to 8 pm Wednesdays and 11 am to 5pm Thursday through Sunday.



DAVE REUTER SKIING AT LUNCH SPOT
WITH VIEW OF THREE SISTERS

Photo by William Sullivan

An Ickenick Day in the Snow

FIND SPECTACLE, BEAUTY AND EVEN HUMILITY ON A GORGEOUS SNOWSHOE HIKE IN THE CASCADES

By William L. Sullivan

Ihear you: You want a perfect day in the snow. You don't want to have to drive far, and you don't want to put on chains. You want an uncrowded snowshoe loop that's easy enough for kids. You want a lunch spot overlooking the Three Sisters. Then you want a coffee shop by a snowy lake. You even want a huge icy waterfall.

My response is: Ickenick!

Although most people have never heard of Ickenick Sno-Park, it actually can satisfy all of those conditions for a fun day in the snow.

This overlooked Sno-Park, on Hwy 126 near Clear Lake, is at the relatively low elevation of 3,200 feet. That means it's closer to Eugene than the mountain passes, so

you almost never need chains for the drive. It also means that the snowpack can be wet, icy, thin or nonexistent. Wait for a day when the mountains look thoroughly white.

If you get to Ickenick and there's no snow, don't panic. Just drive on to Santiam Pass, turn right on the road to the Hoodoo Ski Area, and keep left to the Ray Benson Sno-Park. There's always snow on the trails for snowshoeing and Nordic skiing up there — and they're always crowded.

To find uncrowded Ickenick, drive Hwy 126 east of McKenzie Bridge 20 miles. Half a mile beyond the turnoff for the Clear Lake Resort, turn left into a small plowed parking area. You'll need a Sno-Park permit for your car here. The permits are available at outdoor stores for \$5 a day or online from the DMV for \$25 a season.

Two loops begin here for snowshoers and Nordic skiers. For the shorter 4-mile loop to the viewpoint, head up a gated, snowed-under road for a tenth of a mile and turn left on the Isaac Nickerson Loop.

This is called a "lollipop trail" because the route is shaped like one of those sweets. You trek up a "stem" for 0.9 mile. Then you turn left on a 2-mile circuit around the lollipop itself before returning to the stem. The trail gains only 400 feet of elevation. You go up and a little down through old-growth Douglas-fir forests and a 30-year-old clearcut.

At the extreme far end of the lollipop, a gap in the trees finally provides the view you've wanted to the Three Sisters in all their snowy glory. The roar you hear is not from the highway, but rather from Sahalie Falls, thundering over a cliff 800 feet almost directly below. Although you can't see the falls yet, you can see what created that cataract. The snowy stripe in the woods below the Three Sisters is the Sand Mountain Lava Flow. It poured down from the Cascades 3,000 years ago. The lava dammed the McKenzie River, backed up Clear Lake and left the river tumbling over a rock lip.

When you complete the lollipop by zipping back downhill to your car, round out your snow day by visiting the results of that volcanic eruption. Drive half a mile back toward Eugene and turn left into the plowed entrance of the Clear Lake Resort.

Once a fishing club's retreat, this resort is now managed by the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department. The lakeside café doesn't serve meals in winter, but it does offer hot drinks and snacks. Rowboat rentals are just \$15 an hour. If you want to spend the night, you can get a rustic one-bedroom cabin with a propane heater and a mini-kitchen for as little as \$55 a night, assuming that you bring your own bedding. For reservations, check LinnParks.com or call 541-967-3917.

After recharging with coffee or cocoa at Clear Lake, stop by the icy waterfall I promised. Drive back toward Eugene 3 miles and park in a pullout on the right for Sahalie Falls. It's only 300 feet down to the viewpoint of the waterfall, but the path is not plowed or sanded in winter, so you'll want to wear the same snow boots you used on the Ickenick loop. Even then, the path is so icy that you need to hang tight to railings.

Sahalie is the Chinook jargon word for upper, sky or heaven. In summer the falls are a crowded stopover. In winter, when the swollen cascade roars like heaven's thunder, you will probably face Sahalie's wrath alone. Cling tight to the railing — and each other.

A perfect day in the snow should end with humility. At Sahalie's ice-crusted falls, you will be dwarfed by the power of the ancients, the lava and the real world. After the frolics of your winter trip, take that lesson home.

William L. Sullivan is the author of 23 books, including The Ship In The Woods and the updated 100 Hikes Series For Oregon. Learn more at OregonHiking.com.

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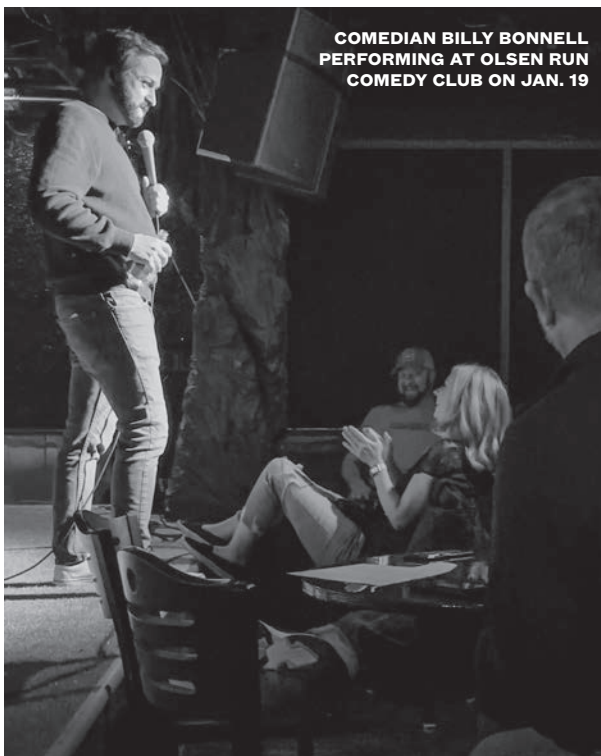
Laughing Matters

STANDUP COMEDY CLUB OPENS IN DOWNTOWN EUGENE

By Will Kennedy

Olsen Run Comedy Club and Lounge, a professional standup comedy club, has opened in the remodeled bar and lounge of what was formerly Sessions Music Hall. Club founder Joe Sinclitico, a professional comic from Southern California, says plans are underway to produce larger-capacity comedy shows on the big stage. Many venues host live comedy performances in Oregon. Outside Portland, however, Olsen Run is the only full-time comedy club in the state.

Sinclitico moved to Oregon in 2020 to work at Olsen Run Winery, his wife's family business in the Harrisburg area. In a phone call with *Eugene Weekly*, Sinclitico says during the pandemic, Olsen Run's crew threw special outdoor events at their Harrisburg food cart about 20 miles north of Eugene. According to Sinclitico, standup comedy did well, and many shows featured comics from Eugene, and much of the audience came from Lane County



— so why not open a club in town?

Sinclitico says Eugene is a big enough market for a comedy club and is a market that likes live entertainment. “There are comedy shows in Eugene,” he adds, “but there’s nothing like seeing it in an actual club setting.”

“When you come into a comedy room,” Sinclitico continues, “and it’s hot, and the audience is excited, it’s not a bar; there’s not TVs going — a dark room with a stage and the audience is ready to laugh, that’s when you can learn to ‘murder’” — an expression standups use when set goes well.

Leigh Anne Jasheway, an experienced Eugene comedian who won *EW*’s 2023 Best of Eugene Best Comedian category, agrees.

In a bar, Jasheway says, “People are there for many different reasons, which may or may not include comedy.” In situations like that, comedians have to win over the audience. “It may also be easier for comedy producers to get bigger name acts into a comedy club as opposed to a bar with a regular comedy night,” Jasheway adds.

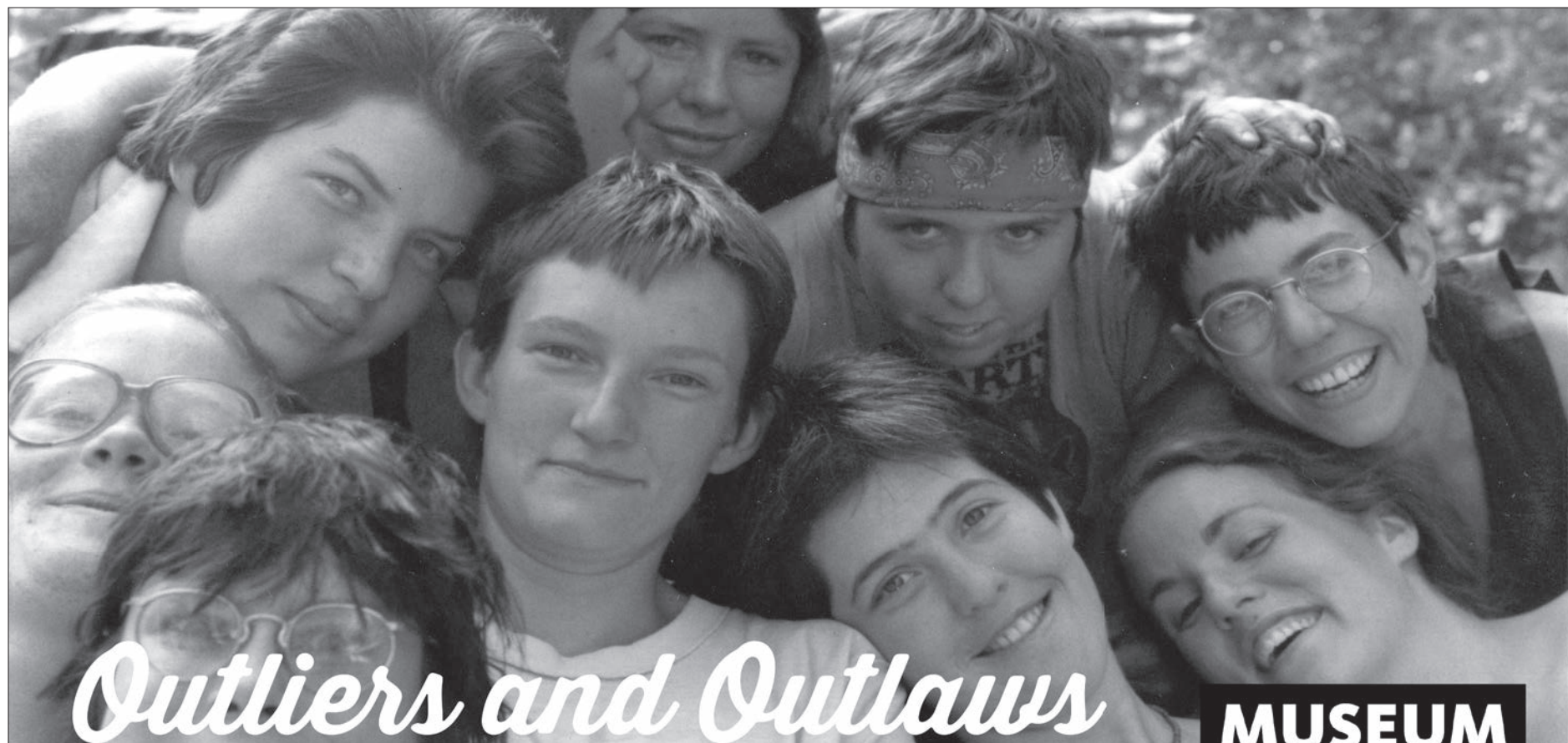
The Olsen Run venue is a welcome new addition to an active open mic circuit in Eugene and many local comedy shows at other venues. Big-name comics also perform at venues like the Hult Center and McDonald Theatre. Sinclitico, who books the new venue, says he plans to integrate the local comedy scene and host an open mic on Wednesday nights.

“If Eugene didn’t already have the comedy scene that it does, I don’t know that I would be able to do what I’m doing,” he says. Meanwhile, he adds, featuring diverse local and touring comedians is also a priority.

“I think any comedy club that’s not cultivating as many diverse voices or even styles as possible, you’re going to limit yourself in terms of your audience,” Sinclitico explains. “Standup comedy is booming,” he adds, because there has been a push to provide as many voices as possible. “It’s not just dudes doing jokes. I think that’s critical.”

In the future, Sinclitico says he hopes to host headliners at the club on weekends and have comedy on weeknights as much as possible, with occasional music. The club and lounge serve the wine and food menu as the Harrisburg food cart.

Olsen Run Comedy Club and Lounge is at 44 East 7th Avenue in downtown Eugene. For tickets and a list of events, go to OlsenRun.com or search Olsen Run Comedy Club and Lounge on social media.



Outliers and Outlaws

Stories from the Eugene Lesbian History Project

Closing Weekend Celebration!

Saturday, February 17, and Sunday, February 18

Join us at the museum to celebrate and send off *Outliers and Outlaws—Stories from the Eugene Lesbian History Project*. Enjoy light refreshments all weekend long.

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): In honor of the Valentine season, and in accordance with astrological omens, I offer you a love letter from an unpublished novel by an Aries friend. Consider saying something similar to a person who would be thrilled to hear it. Here it is. “We will seize the sexiest joy we can conjure. We will turn each other into boisterous deities in quest of liberation from all unnecessary limitations. We will tenderly shock each other with mysterious epiphanies and rivers of bliss. ‘Wild’ will be too mild a word for the awakenings we provoke in each other’s futures.”

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): “The greater the fool, the better the dancer.” Composer Theodore Hook said that. Poet Edwin Denby agreed. He said, “There is a bit of insanity in dancing that does everybody a great deal of good.” Choreographer Martha Graham added, “Dance is the hidden language of the soul of the body.” I bring these thoughts to your attention because the coming weeks will be an excellent time for you to get freer, more sensuous and more unconstrained. Dancing your inhibitions into oblivion will be an excellent way to pursue these goals. So will doing everything with a dancer’s abandon, including love-making.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Years ago, Salon.com asked various critics to name the most preposterous sex scene to appear in a recently published novel. I was honored that one of the vignettes selected was from my book *The Televisionary Oracle*. As I read the critic’s review of my wild, funny and crazy erotic story, I realized he was a pedantic macho prude who thought sex isn’t sex unless it’s dead serious and joylessly intense. The characters of mine he regarded as preposterous were in fact playing, laughing and having goofy fun. In the spirit of my novel’s kooky lovers and in accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to pursue uproarious amusement while enjoying the arts of intimacy — both in and out of bed. (PS: Playwright Rose Franken said, “Anyone can be passionate, but it takes real lovers to be silly.”)

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): A psychic told me that in one of my past lives, I was Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome. It’s an intriguing theory that could help explain why my horoscopes are popular in Italy. What about you, my fellow Cancerian? Is there an aspect of your reincarnation history that aids your current destiny? Or are there past events in your current life that are becoming more influential? The coming weeks will be a good time to meditate on these possibilities. While you ruminate on your history, check in with the spirits of your ancestors and departed allies to see if they have any inspirational messages for you.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Kevin Kelly wrote the book *Excellent Advice for Living: Wisdom I Wish I’d Known Earlier*. There he observes, “Listening well is a superpower. While listening to someone you love, keep asking them ‘Is there more?’ until there is no more.” Dear Leo, this is excellent advice for you in the coming weeks. I urge you to specialize in gathering the deep revelations of those you care for. Opening yourself to them in unprecedented ways will boost your soul power and enrich your wisdom.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Imagine you are walking on a hill at night. You are headed to meet a person you adore, who awaits you with champagne and chocolate. The weather is balmy. The moon is full. You are singing songs you both love, announcing your arrival. The songs tell stories about how much you two love to yearn for each other and how much you love quenching your yearning. When you arrive, dear Virgo, what will you tell your beloved to make them feel supremely understood and appreciated?

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Has your approach to togetherness become infused with habit or numbness? When was the last time you got extravagant for the sake of love? Has it been a while since you tried a daring romantic move or two? I bring these questions to your attention, Libra, because now is an excellent time to rev up your imagination as you upgrade intimacy, companionship and collaboration. I hope you will authorize your fantasy life to be lush, unruly and experimental. Spur yourself to dream up departures from routine that intrigue your close allies.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Author W. Somerset Maugham (1874–1965) testified, “My own belief is that there is hardly anyone whose sexual life, if it were broadcast, would not fill the world with surprise and horror.” Is that true about you, Scorpio? Even if it is, I’m guessing the horrifying aspects will be nonexistent in the coming weeks. There may be surprises, yes. There may be entertaining interludes. But from what I can tell, everything will at least be educational and colorful. What are your most exotic erotic fantasies? Now is a good time to ask a willing partner to explore them with grace and good humor.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): The Valentine season is looming, and many of us are receptive to advice about togetherness. I’ll offer some principles that I believe are essential to you Sagittarians as you nourish ALL your close relationships, including your romantic bonds. They are from novelist Graham Joyce. He wrote, “Two people in love don’t make a hive mind. Neither should they want to be a hive mind, to think the same, to know the same. It’s about being separate and still loving each other, being distinct from each other. One is the violin string, one is the bow.”

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Lately, I have been intoxicated a lot. Not because I’ve ingested drugs and alcohol. Not because I have been doing three-hour meditations or studying sacred texts. I’ve felt so wildly free and euphoric because life has been dismantling some of my fears. Once it happened when my psychotherapist spoke just the right curative words at a pivotal moment in our session. Another time, I came upon a very large hare while strolling in the woods and had an epiphany about how to heal a painful trauma in my past. On another occasion, I dreamed of a priestess doing a banishing ritual to exorcize my abandonment fears. There were three other similar events, as well. I bring this to your attention because I suspect you may soon also get intoxicated through the loss of fears.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): Reading through the annals of famous authors’ quotes about love, I’m horrified by the relentlessness of their sour assessments. “Love is merely a madness,” wrote Shakespeare. “Whoever is not jealous is not in love,” said St. Augustine. “General incivility is the very essence of love,” declared Jane Austen. “It is impossible to love and be wise,” moaned Francis Bacon. “Real love always has something hidden — some loss or boredom or tiny hate,” says Andrew Sean Greer. I am allergic to all that dour noise! Personally, I have been entangled in a lot of romantic love during my time on Earth, and most of it has been interesting, educational and therapeutic. I am deeply grateful for ALL of it, even the heartbreaks. Any wisdom I have developed owes a great debt to my lovers. What about you, Aquarius? Where do you stand on these issues? I suspect the coming months will provide you with ample reasons to embrace my attitudes.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Have you discovered all there is to know about your sexual feelings and proclivities? Have you come to a complete understanding of what turns you on and how you might express it? I hope your answer to those questions is “no,” Pisces. In my view, all of us should keep evolving our relationship with eros. There is always more to discover and explore about the mysteries of our desires. Always more to learn about what excites and inspires us. The coming days will be an excellent time for you to enjoy this research.

Homework: Make a vow to express more love in a way that’s fun for you. Newsletter:FreeWillAstrology.com

Go to RealAstrology.com
CHECK OUT EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES AND DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES.

SAVAGE LOVE

BY DAN SAVAGE



A therapist suggested I might have “Relationship OCD,” which is OCD with the obsessions and compulsions focusing on romantic relationships. While I haven’t been formally diagnosed, it rings true to me. As soon as I get close to someone, I experience so much anxiety. If I kissed a partner and they kissed me in a way I didn’t like, I would think, “Why didn’t you like that? Maybe you don’t really love them. Maybe you don’t even like people of this gender. Maybe you’re lying to yourself.” And before I know it, I’m spinning out of control and panicking. When I’m single, I never have thoughts like this.

I was in a four-year relationship that just ended. While I’m sad it ended, I understand why it needed to and I’m trying to move forward. However, I’m stuck on the impact my obsessions had on our sex life. In the first two-to-three years I didn’t have these obsessions, but during the last one I started to experience such bad anxiety that I couldn’t enjoy sex. It was devastating. Perhaps foolishly, I viewed this person as the exception to my obsessive thinking, but it seems like as the stakes in the relationship heightened, so did my obsessive thoughts.

I’m single again now, and I learned a valuable lesson from this relationship: no matter what relationship I’m in or how much I love my partner, I will have these obsessive thoughts. I’m in therapy, and I would like to have a long-term relationship with someone that includes living together, traveling together, and maybe even having kids together. But I find it hard to work on my issue when I’m NOT in a relationship. Is there anything I can do right now, while I’m single, that will help me in my next relationship?

— Sad That Relationship Elevates Stress Symptoms

I shared your question with Sheva Rajae, a licensed marriage and family therapist, author and public speaker. The founder and director of the Center for Anxiety and OCD, Rajae wrote the book — the literal book — on relationship OCD: *Relationship OCD: A CBT-Based Guide to Move Beyond Obsessive Doubt, Anxiety & Fear of Commitment in Romantic Relationships*.

“Part of what makes relationship OCD (ROCD) so painful and damaging is that these incessant doubts seep into every corner of our relationships,” Rajae says. “And cruelly, it’s loudest in our most viable relationships. ROCD doesn’t care about your summer fling with an expiration date. Nope! ROCD is coming for the relationship with actual legs.”

Basically, STRESS, your ROCD is going to lay more or less dormant when you’re seeing someone you can’t see yourself with long-term. That summer fling is gonna end with the summer, and the potential downside of picking the wrong person for that summer fling are minimal. But the moment you realize you’re seeing someone you might actually fall in love with — the moment you start picturing a future that includes marriage and kids — the stakes shoot through the roof.

“When the love ‘risk’ is higher, the greater the chance the psychological defenses of someone suffering from ROCD will try to keep them safe by pointing out perceived flaws and incompatibilities,” Rajae says. “ROCD is a misguided attempt to keep you safe by keeping you separate and what STRESS describes — what she just went through — is a textbook example of relationship OCD. It’s the spiraling nature of worries that take small imperfections or incompatibilities (‘I don’t love the way they kiss’) and blows them up to worst-case outcomes (‘I’m lying to myself and to them’).”

So, can a person work on their ROCD when they’re not in a relationship and/or they’re enjoying the kind of casual connection — summer flings, vacation fucks, sex friends — that don’t trigger their ROCD?

“Yes and no,” Rajae replies. “STRESS can work on anxiety in general, practicing riding waves of discomfort and even panic without getting caught up in the scare stories. She can examine her expectations of love and relationships and practice exposure therapy, so that when these thoughts surface in her next good relationship — as they likely will — she’ll have a solid strategy to address them.”

But the most important work — the work that will help you contain and control your ROCD — can only be done during one of those high-stakes relationships.

“In STRESS’s case, this means opening herself to sex, love and connection and then working through near-crippling anxiety while trying to maintain a healthy relationship,” Rajae says, “and that’s guaranteed to introduce some conflict into her next partnership. But I want her to know that it’s possible to do this and that I see it done — and done successfully — all the time. In fact, for many of my clients, doing this work brings them closer together.”

The Center for Anxiety and OCD’s website is Caocd.com. The Center is on Instagram and Threads @theshrinkwrap.

I have a partner of sorts and it’s complicated. He’s married. From the sound of things, they tried marriage counseling, it didn’t work, and it sounds like they’re just companions. So, no sex for him at home anymore. Lots of other issues. It sounds like they’re waiting for kids to grow up before they divorce. We have an anniversary of sorts coming up, and I’d like him to celebrate it with me in some way. But it’s tricky because it falls on Valentine’s Day. Even if he and his wife are not close anymore, I’m sure she’s going to expect him to spend that day with her. I don’t expect him to spend that time with me, but what can we do to celebrate without making it awkward? And how should I view it if he doesn’t remember/doesn’t acknowledge the anniversary? I mean, do anniversaries even matter?

— Complicated Partner Of Sorts

It may sound like their marriage is companionate, and it may sound like they’re not fucking, and it may sound like they’re gonna divorce when their kids are grown because all of those things are true. Or those are the sounds your partner of sorts (POS) thinks you wanna hear and that’s why he’s making them.

Look, cheaters aren’t the most reliable narrators; and while cheaters are often honest with their affair partners — or more honest with their affair partners than they are with their spouses — there’s no way to verify whether the sounds your POS is making without talking to his wife, CPOS, which you can’t do. (Of course, you can talk to his wife; lots of affair partners have talked to the wronged spouse. But to do that you would have to betray your affair partner — ironically — and that betrayal is guaranteed to end your relationship but not their marriage. Ending an affair is easier than ending a marriage.)

Anyway, CPOS, you know what you signed up for. Your POS can’t slip out on Valentine’s Day without raising questions he and his wife aren’t ready to confront. Even if they’re not doing anything special on the day, even if they’re not gonna fuck for old time’s sake, even if she drinks her morning coffee out of a “Toly AF” mug (coming soon!), expecting to spend time with your married POS on Valentine’s Day doesn’t fall into the “reasonable expectation” category. So, how about you celebrate your anniversary-of-sorts a week early or celebrate your anniversary-of-sorts a week late or celebrate your half-anniversary-of-sorts on the fourteenth of August. St. Maximilian, whose feast day is August 14, isn’t as sexy as St. Valentine — Maximilian is the patron saint of drug addicts, journalists, and prisoners; Valentine is the patron saint of lovers, epileptics, and beekeepers — but Maximilian can tide you over until Valentine is all yours.

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